

^{A *Ireland vol 4*}
SHORT VIEW

O. F.

Both Reports,

In Relation to the

Irish Forfeitures.

In a Familiar

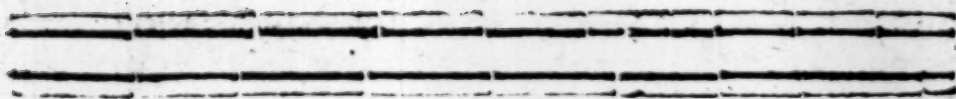
DIALOGUE

Between A. and B.

*Most Humbly Offer'd to the Consideration
of Both Houses of Parliament.*

L O N D O N,
Printed in the Year, 1701.





A

Short View

O F

Both Reports,

In Relation to the

Irish Forfeitures, &c.

B. **G**od Morrow, Cuz. are you for a Walk
this Morning to the Park?

A. No, prethee let's go to the *Court
of Requests*; I find no Diversion equal to that, from
Eleven in the Morning, till my Stomach tells me 'tis
towards Two.

B. Not I, indeed, I find no diversion in it; there's
nothing there but sad and deplorable Cases stalking a-
bout, which move in me more Compassion than
Mirth.

B

A. Now,

A. Now, that very thing is my Diversion ; you know I dress tollerably well, sometimes those *Irish Strangers* mistake me for a Commoner, and when I have my best Wig on, for a Lord ; and 'tis with all of them, either *Pray, Sir, commiserate my Case ; or Pray, my Lord, recommend it to your Friends in the House of Commons.*

B. How is this a Diversion ?

A. To hear each of them tell their different Story would make one dye with laughing ; the first that accosted me was an Article-man, he began, *Sir, I beg of you to consider my Case, my Brother was Tenant in Tail, the remainder to me ; he was killed at the first Siege of Limrick, and left no Issue, so that I became Tenant in Possession of the Estate. Upon the Surrender of Limrick it was Agreed that we should all enjoy our Estates, and by virtue of these Articles I continued in Possession till the Tear 99. Well, said I to him, what do you complain of ? Indeed, replied he, the Parliament last Session was very kind to us, and gave us a Saving for all the Rights we had ; have, or shall have. Is this, said I, what you complain of ? No, said he, but the Trustees have since disallowed my Claim, and put me in the same condition with the Protestants who have no such general Saving.*

B. Where is the Jest of this ?

A. Can it be imagined that the Parliament designed to shew more favour to them, than to the innocent Protestants ?

B. I cannot tell what the Parliament designed, but I am sure the Protestant remainders are barred, and the Article Mens are saved by the expresse Words of the Act, and how these Gentlemen can find

find out the meaning of the Parliament, but by their Words, I cannot tell.

A. You interrupt me; the second that accosted me was an elderly Well-Looking *English-man*. He began, Sir, *I am neither concerned as Grantee, nor Purchaser, my Grandfather was sent over to Ireland in the time of Queen Elizabeth, with a Company of Foot, in order to reduce, and secure the Obedience of that Country to the Crown of England: And hoped while that continued, he, and his Posterity, might enjoy the Freedom of English-men.* I asked him in what he thought that Freedom did consist? He answered me pertly, *in having Laws made and repealed for them, by themselves, or by Representatives of their own chusing; and in having their Properties Reputations, and their Lives tried by Juries of their Neighbours, and Equals; Sir, continued he, I have still some English Blood in my Veins, and I would rather be free in the remotest part of America, than be a Slave to the Wills of Twelve such Men in the most temperate Climate.*

B. Well, I find no Jest at all in this.

A. Pray let me go on, says a third, Pray, Sir, distinguish us, we purchased under the Earl of Athlone, who after he had received the Thanks of the House of Commons of England, had his Grant confirmed to him, by the Parliament of Ireland in return for his faithful Services. Says a 4th, *I purchased under the Earl of Romney, observing that in the Bill sent up from the Commons to the Lords in the Year 93, there was a saving in favour of his Lordship: I have a Wife and ten small Children that must Starve, if you do not allow me my Purchase-Money:* Says a croud of other Purchasers of

Inheritance, we Purchased under the same Title that all the Protestant Estates in Ireland are held, under his Majesty's Letters Patents, but we were so cautious, that we did not purchase till after the House of Commons in the Year 98, had Voted a Tax should be laid upon all Beneficial Grants; the Debates then ran, whether two, or four Years purchase: If this Tax had been equally divided between the Patentee and Purchaser, it had undone neither. Says a 6th, I purchased a small Parcel of Forfeited Land in the City of Dublin, at the rate of Six Shillings per. Foot; it cost me 200 l. I Laid out 1000 l. upon it, in Building a House, which I hoped would have yielded me a good Rent towards the support of my Family; all the favour I desire is that I may be allowed the Money my House cost me. I am very certain my Money was not forfeited; if you are not pleased to allow me the Money the Land cost me, I must submit, but I have an equal Title even to that with other Purchasers. Says a 7th, I came here to represent the Purchasers of Leases under my Lady Orkney; we paid about 12000 l. Fines, and our new Terms do not yet commence, so that we have not received one Shilling advantage by our Bargains. Says an 8th, Sir, I am Representative of 10000 English Families, the poor Under-tenants, who have taken Leases at a Rack Rent, and laid out considerably Improvements. *vid. par. 10th of the 2d Report*; there the Trustees tell you, that most of the Tenants under the Grantees are Protestants, who having made Improvements upon their Lands, deserved all the compassion they could justify. They are not able to pay the 2d time for their Improvements, which they must do, if the Lands are sold without regard to their Interests.

Says.

Says a 9th, Pray, consider the Earl of Carlingford, he has been a General all along in the Confederate Army; he has shewn great Civilities to the English abroad, he had the Favour to be excepted out of the Act for confirming of Out-Lawries in Ireland; no Out-lawry appeared against his Brother till after the Tenth of August, 1700. Since that time there is a new discovery of Out-Lawries (never before return'd to Dublin, or heard of) not only against my Lord Carlingford, but 300 Persons more, in the County Palatine of Tipperary; by which means not only his Lordship, and the other Gentlemen will be divested of their Estates, but the Protestants, and other not Forfeiting Creditors will be barred, for not entring their Claims before the 10th of August; whereas at that time they were in no possibility of Apprehending danger, no Suspicion of these Out-lawries appearing. Says a 10th, Sir, there have been several Proclamations, and other Publick assurances given, that a 4th part should be Granted to such as would discover any concealed Forfeiture, relying upon the publick Faith, we discovered to the Value of 8000 l. per. Ann. whereas we could have made more Beneficial Bargains for our selves, by being Silent. vid. par. 84. of the first Report. The whole Benefit of his Majesties intentions to us is taken away, by the Bill for reassuming the Irish Forfeitures; tho' even in that Bill 'tis thought reasonable to give new Incouragement to new discoverers. And by the 18th, par. of the 2d. Report 'tis thought necessary by the Trustees, to give farther incouragement to discoverers in other Cases.

B. In my Opinion these Men have as good a Pretension to their 4th. part, as the Article-men have to their Estates, both depending on the Publick Faith.

A. Then

A. Then comes the 11th, and says, *Good Sir, take pity on me, my Father was Out-lawed after death; How could he appear to a Call after he was Dead?* Says a 12th, *Pray, Sir, commiserate my Case, my Lord Clancarty tossed my Husband in a Blanket till he killed him; his Lordship was pleased to Allow me a small Farm while he continued in possession of his Estate, and after her Majesty, of blessed Memory, was pleased to continue me in it, for the support of my self and Family. The Trustees have now let this Farm over my head. Now, prethee Friend, is not all this very Comical? We never toss Men in Blankets in England at such a rate.*

B. Indeed, I admire to see a Man of common Humanity sport himself with the Misfortunes of his fellow Creatures; 'tis strange you do not make other Men's Cases your own. Suppose the *French* should now Invade us, as 'tis not impossible; go but an Inch further, and suppose they Conquer us. What will become of your fine Mannors of *Dale and Sale*? You may go to *Paris* and Petition, get Manners and good Nature, but no Estate.

A. Then came a 13th.

B. Nay, Pray Sir, hold.

A. You must have patience to hear the 100th Case, for 'tis attended with a 1000 Particularities

B. Indeed I will hear no more of them; I had as good go to the *Court of Requests* my self, and hear their Cases at first Hand, as stay all day with you, and hear them with your ill natured comment. But since you are so fond of these Cases, Pray what is it you expect from them? For, in my O-
pinion

pinion, the best jest that attends those Cases, is the Money they bring the publick, and indeed nothing but the present Necessities, and a very considerable Summ can give a tolerable colour for continuing them.

A. What think you *Cuz.* of Three Millions? We are infinitely obliged to those Gentlemen that made such a Heavenly Report: they are said to be *Irish-men* born too, and that's the Wonder on't.

B. That makes it no wonder.

A. There was an *English-man*, or two, joined with them, whose *Squeamish Stomachs* keequ'd at the Scandal, and the Sum in that Report, but our Hero's bravely withstood them, and sent one of them to a better House than ever his Father built.

B. But sure you mistake that Report, and magnifie your expectations beyond the apprehensions of any others Understanding.

A. Upon my word I do not. You must know that I have studied this Report, so that I am perfect Master of it; and now for demonstration in the later end of the 14th *par.* they tell you, That the Total Value of all the Forfeitures amounts to 2685130 *l.* add to this *par.* 72 where you will find 297 Houses in *Dublin*, 36 Houses in the City of *Cork*, 267 Houses situate in the several Cities, and Towns of that Kingdom, 61 Mills, 28 Fairs and Markers, all which they Value at 50000 *l.* in *Par.* 72, they value the forfeited Woods at 60000 *l.* besides several Denominations of Land to which they could annex no certain number of Acres, but
in

in the 76th *par.* they say, it seems probable they amount to 70 or 80000 Acres; which at their Rate of Valuation will raise 200000 *l.* Then in the later end of the *Report* they give an Estimate of the private Estate, value total of it 337943 *l.*

B. But may they not be mistaken.

A. No, 'tis impossible; In the 13th. *Par.* they tell you, That the Estates *which came to their knowledge*, (observe that) together with the Proprietors Names, the Number of Acres, the County and Barony in which they lye, the value of them *per Ann.* and the total Value appear in a Book deliver'd in with this *Report*, No. 2. From this 'tis plain, that the Forfeitures may prove of much greater Value, but 'tis impossible they should prove of less.

B. Now, pray what does all this amount to?

A. I have not done yet. The Debts owing to forfeiting Persons amount to 120013 *l.* 13 *s.* 10 *d.* *vid. par.* 62. all these Sums added together, make a Sum of 3453086 *l.* 13 *s.* 10 *d.* Now I must make my Abatements to the Article-men 724923 *l.* 4 *s.* 6 *d.* To those restored by Favour 260863 *l.* 7 *s.* 3 *d.* These Sums being deducted, the Sum total will be reduced to 2467300 *l.* 3 *s.* 1 *d.*

B. But you have forgot to make an Allowance for Incumbrances.

A. I lay but little stress upon them. In *Par.* 55. they tell you, that the Incumbrances by Statutes, Judgments, Mortgages, or other Debts which affect the Estates not restored, amount to 161936 *l.* 15 *s.* 6 *d.* But observe what follows; they *Humbly conceive there are very many great Deductions to be made upon the Considerations following*: Now if you will be pleas'd

to

to read the Ten Paragaphs which follow, you must conclude that these Incumbrances, when strictly inquired into, will be reduced to a very inconsiderable Sum, not worth the taking notice of.

B. But your Sum still falls short of the Three Millions you promised.

A. The unprofitable Acres in former Surveys, now made profitable, which are taken notice of in *Par.* 73. but not consider'd in the above Valuation; and the great Discoveries they promised themselves both of Lands and Chattels Personal, the Remainders expectant upon Estates Tail, which are cut off by the late Act, and the voluntary Settlements from 86, which are made void, of which the Commissioners had no prospect, may be supposed, by a modest Computation, to raise the whole Sum to three Millions. Now, Sir, after what I have said, I hope you do not wonder at the great Struggle that was made last Year on this Account. These Forfeitures are too sweet a Morsel to part with; and now I think on't there is this further advantage that attends them, that they will pay a Debt of *Six Millions*.

B. As how, Sir?

A. Why, Faith the Debentures and Tallies run low in the City; those who buy them cheap, may afford to pay a round Rate for the Lands: If there be any Soldier, whose Necessities have not forced him to Sell at half Value, the others will cant him up, he must either buy at their Rates, or go without, and keep his Papers, which will bring him in no Interest.

B. Well, I must confess you are a Man of admirable Principles; you are not satisfied to have those

poor Gentlemen lye out of their Money for near the space of Ten Years without Interest, but you are at last for paying them with Lands in *Ireland*, at 26 Years purchase.

A. Well, let's not Quarrel about that; I am satisfied that they should have the Lands at 13 Years Purchase. Three Millions is a good round Sum.

B. Even that is three Years value more than ever such Estates were sold for in *Ireland*, and I will maintain it that one had better have given 13 Years Purchase formerly than Ten now, considering how these Gentlemen have raised those Lands.

A. Pray, what do you mean by saying *such Estates*?

B. Do you not know that Estates in *Ireland* have for many Years been distinguished by the Names of *Old and New Interest*?

A. Not I.

B. Then I will inform you. Some Estates have descended for many Generations, or have been purchased from the old Proprietors; those they call *Old Interests*. But such as are held under the Acts of Settlement, are called *New*.

A. Was there any difference in the Price between Old and New Interests?

B. Yes, three Years Purchase; nay, more, hardly any one would venture, even in K. Charles the Second's time, to Purchase the *New Interests* at any Rate.

A. What! tho' they were Confirm'd by several Acts of Parliament?

B. There is a Humor that sences those silly People to be afraid of the old Proprietors, who were never till now out of hopes of being restored to their Estates again.

A. In-

A. Indeed, I have been told that K. James's Parliament there restored them all.

B. And, I must tell you, could they have restored him, they had kept them.

A. What, when they were dispos'd of in Satisfaction of the publick Debts, and were Confirm'd by the Parliaments of both Kingdoms.

B. Yes, had there been ten times as many Acts to Confirm them; for what do Acts signify in a tyrannical Government, such as that must have been, could the Papists have restored him.

A. Pray tell me, do you think the late Forfeiting Persons have any room left for hopes at present?

B. None in the World. For considering how unanimous we are in *England*, and all to a Man in his Majesty's Interest: How well pleas'd the *Scotch* are with the flourishing Condition of their *American* Trade; and *Ireland* secure of its Liberties and Properties; That there are no *Irish*-men in Arms in *France*, and that the King of *France* is in a declining Condition by the Accession of the Dominions of *Spain* to his Grandson. These matters being well consider'd, let me tell you, the *Irish* Papists utterly despair.

A. Nay, farther we are in hopes that all our Kings, for the future, will be as brave, wise, and have as good an Interest abroad, as his Present Majesty, and the People of *England* will always be of the same Mind.

B. Well, thou art a pretty fellow! if the City will erect an Office to insure your hopes, I will become a purchaser next cant. But now what will you say, if notwithstanding all your Demonstrations,

tions, I make it appear, even from the *Report* of the Trustees, that the *Irish Forfeitures* are not worth above half a Million? And that the present Court will occasion a certain expence to that Kingdom of 200000 *l.*

A. So that this Charge does not lessen the Fund? what matters it?

B. It has always been a reasonable Objection against a Tax, if the collecting it be chargeable or grievous to the People; how should we like it in *England* to be Taxed at 4 *s.* in the Pound to the Publick, and 2 *s.* in the Pound to the Collectors? For this is said to be the present Case of *Ireland*.

A. Now, Pray let us see what Demonstrations you will advance to support your Propositions: first, as to the Charge of the Court, and then proceed as to the neat produce of the Publick.

B. I obey. In the 10th *par.* of the last *Report* you will find that the expence of their Commission in Surveys, and Incidents, are computed to 40000 *l.* Sterl. *per. Ann.* they are allowed two Years by the Act to finish their work in: But they tell you in the 13th *par.* that *it will be impossible, with their utmost Application, to determine all the Claims within the time limited*; so the least we can suppose is, that another Year must be added: If the determining 800 Claims has taken up near ten Months of their time, 'tis easy to tell how much time is necessary to dispatch 3092..

A. Be it as you say, that another Year must be added.

B. Then I hope you will not deny that 40000 *l. per. Ann.* for 3 Years makes up a Sum of 120000 *l.*

A. This

A. This is plain.

B. Then I compute that one Claim with another will cost the Claimant 20 Guineas, for the Charge of Attendance, neglect of Business, Charge of Witness, Feeing of Counsel, and the Fees of the Court; not to mention any thing for under Officers for dispatch, &c,

A. The Computation is modest enough.

B. Then 3092 Claims, computing each at two Guineas (as Money goes in *Ireland*) will make a Sum of 80000 *l.* within a trifle, which is the Sum wanting to compleat the Sum of 200000 *l.* which was the Sum to be proved.

A. I allow you have made it very plain, that the execution of this Commission will be very expensive to that Kingdom, now proceed to the near produce to the Kingdom of *England*.

B. At first dash I will cut you out of half your hopes, in the 14th *par.* of the first *Report*, they tell you that the Value *per. Ann.* of all the Forfeitures is 211623 *l.* 6 *s.* 3 *d.* restored to the Article-men 55763 *l.* 6 *s.* 6 *d.* restored by favour 20066 *l.* 8 *s.* 3 *d.* These two Sums being deducted from the Total yearly Value; will reduce the Rent to 135793 *l.* 11 *s.* 6 *d.* Add to this the yearly Rent of the private Estate, being 26595 *l.* 18 *s.* this will make the Rent 161789 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.* and this I know is the Foundation of your hope.

A. You are very right.

B. Now consider the 5th *par.* of the 2d *Report*, where they tell you, that they have sworn most of the Occupiers of Forfeited Estates to the true Quantities, Qualities, and real Values.

A. Well,

A. Well, this is an Advantage no other Landlord ever had.

B. But this not being much to be relied on, Receivers were Appointed in every County, with Instructions to inquire into, and return up the true Value of all the said Estates, and under what Rents, Covenants, and Contracts they are severally held: Nay, all would not satisfy them, but in the 6th par. they tell you, That they have appointed Surveyers in the several parts of the Kingdom, and from this they promise themselves great Advantage, that it will abundantly recompence the Expence of it.

A. This goes well still on my side.

B. In the 7th par. they begin to mumble the Thistle; for you must know after they had given so great hopes, it would be dangerous to discover the disappointment we are like to meet with all at once. Here they tell you that the greatness of the Rains, the largeness of the Districts of their Receivers, and the Particularities of their Instructions have been such, that they cannot yet expect from them such an Account as can be relied on, and consequently not fit to be laid before their Honours.

A. Well, you see they are good Men, they make a Conscience of returning of one Shilling more than the thing is really worth.

B. Now, they begin by degrees to draw their Necks out of the Collar, and in the latter end of the same par. they tell you, that the Claims upon the Forfeited Estates are so many; in the 8th par. that great part of the Lands in the Duke of York's Grant were never in his possession: In the 9th par. most of the private Estates in Lease till in May next at
small

Small Rents, and some parts of it longer; a great part of the Forfeited Estates is under beneficial Leases; a great deal more is either under Extent, or in Possession of Mortgagees, and some of Persons who Claim it as their own Inheritance.

A. Well, that's very Impudent in them to claim the Lands as their own Inheritances; if the Trustees go on at this rate, I'm afraid the 65th par. of their first Report may be turned upon them: They therefore say, that there are all the Contrivances possible made use of by some of the Grantees and their Agents, to make the Incumbrances appear great: For my part I think some Persons are copying after them; for what could the Grantees, or their Agents, say more? I begin to be out of conceit with some Gentlemen.

B. The Trustees go on, and tell you, *That a considerable part is held in Dower and Jointure; and they ought to have added, that a very considerable part was only forfeited for Life.*

A. I now begin to be in a sweat; for this is all quite counter to their former Report.

B. In the 10th. par. they tell you, *That they have raised the Lands as high as they could, without running the hazzard of laying all wast; and after all, that their yearly Rents will Answer about double the Expence of their Commission; but this they are only in hopes of.* Now, I hope, you are satisfied that their Rent Roll is not half what they promised you last Year.

A. I am far from being Satisfied.

B. I have not done with you yet. In the 11th. par. they lop off all the *Forfeitable Estates*, from which they

they promised themselves great Advantages last Year. In the 13th. par. they tell you, that they have determined 800 Claims; but they do not tell you what those Claims will deduct from the near Produce, nor how many they have disallowed in so great a number. In the 15th. par. they tell you, that *by neglect of Parties the Debts are incurred to double, which lye as an heavy Charge on the Lands.* Now to conclude, no Man can reasonably expect above half a Million from this Account.

A. Nay, Sir, hold there; for supposing it only 800000 *l.* per Ann. which, I must confess, is a very great fall, yet that at Ten Years purchase will raise 8000000 *l.*

B. Not so fast, good Sir, for if you will believe the best Accounts from *Ireland*, their Rent-Roll does not exceed 60000 *l.* per Ann. But be it more or less, you must allow one third for the Claims.

A. This will reduce Matters very low indeed.

B. I cannot pretend to be nice in my Calculation, neither can any of the Gentlemen who are come lately from thence inform me certainly. But upon this you may depend for certain truth, that they have neither paid Principal nor Interest for any Debt; neither have they any thing considerable in their Treasury, tho' they are already intituled to a Years Rent; whereas had their former Account been true, they must now have had 120000 *l.* in their Treasury.

A. But if they do not pay off the Interest, the Publick runs in Debt.

B. Most certainly.

A. But have they not paid the Purchasers their 210000 *l.*

B. No,

B. No, nor given them their Certificates.

A. Their reason for this.

B. The reason seems to be, least the Purchasers should extend the Lands, and not leave sufficient behind them to pay their Salaries.

A. But 'tis the same thing to the Purchasers, for they will be allowed Interest from the 10th of *August*.

B. That matter has been debated by Counsel, but the Trustees over-ruled them in this Point.

A. At this rate those Gentlemen may receive no benefit of the favour the Parliament design'd them, till the end of their Commission, and when that will be is very uncertain.

B. Nor then neither, if the Trustees out of their bounteous liberality do not think fit to pay them.

A. This is hard indeed, not to allow them all the favour that can be justified by the Act; for I think that those Purchasers may cast their Caps at the other Two Thirds of their Purchase-money, if the present Parliament does not relieve them.

B. 'Tis not to be doubted but this Parliament will relieve them; they have already taken them into their care. Last Year it was uncertain how much they actually paid, but now that it plainly appears by this Report, that there is still 38500 *l.* remaining of their Purchase-money, we cannot doubt but they, and all the other aggrieved will find relief.

A. The truth of it is, I love Money, but I am not for creating a great deal of clamor for a small Sum; and for my part, as well as I love those Gentlemen, I am sorry it requires so great a Charge to execute that Commission; 'tis near double the charge of the Civil List of *Ireland*. This very Money might relieve a great many hard Cases.

D

B.

B. But how is it to be prevented?

A. By putting in a Judge from each Bench in *England*, who should have *per Ann.* added to his Salary for the difference of the Air.

B. Indeed I like your Proposal very well, for I'm satisfied this would be no interruption to the Course of Justice here, and matters would be determined much more to the Satisfaction of People there. For, let me tell you, 'tis an odd thing to see a Judge of a Court of Law and Equity (from which there is no Appeal) leave the Bench, because there is a Matter of Law debated. To see a Man, after having heard a Point solemnly debated three or four several days, and declared his Opinion against the Claimant in the Chamber, so that the whole City of *Dublin* had an account of it; to see such a Man afterwards, upon the Bench, give the Casting Voice for the Claimant, as in the case of Mrs. *Lutterell*.

A. 'Tis possible there were better Reasons given him.

B. Indeed I cannot tell; but would it not be strange to hear a Person ask from a Bench, *Why that little Deed, call'd a Fine, was not seal'd, and who were Witnesses to the Delivery of it?* With many Questions obvious to every common Understanding, as well as to the ingenious Gentlemen at the Bar.

A. This is ridiculous: But does he understand nothing?

B. If, by accident, there be any thing in debate relating to Merchants Accounts, he takes the whole management upon himself; and if a Lord be under Examination, he presently demands *his Books of Accounts*; and will hardly be convinced, but all the Nobility

Nobility keep an account of their Receipts and Disbursements, in the same manner Merchants do.

A. 'Tis a wonderful thing a Man cannot be silent in matters he does not understand.

B. No, then he would leave off as ignorant as he began.

A. And does he ask Questions till he understands the Points in debate?

B. I cannot tell that, but he was so very ignorant at the beginning, that he asked publicly what was the meaning of the word *Moiety*. Now he is got as far as *Tenant in Tail*, and in *Fee Simple*.

A. Let us leave this Man; and let me tell you that notwithstanding any thing that has been said, if the Trustees had but new Powers given them, the value of the Forfeitures would considerably advance.

B. They have more Power than any other Court ever had; Pray, what would they be at?

A. They would have their Surveyers impowered to administer Oaths, in order to ascertain the Mets and Bounds, *vid. Par. 6th*.

B. And would they have their Return conclusive?

A. Without doubt, else it would signify nothing, nor could be a *Satisfaction to the Purchasers*, as they say this would be in the close of that *par*.

B. This indeed is a nicker, and if allowed them might encrease the Value of the Forfeitures: But what Man in that Kingdom would be Secure of a Foot of Land, if this were allowed? 'Tis certain that upon the Surveys they have made, the Surveyers did not so much as summon the Occupiers of the Lands

to be present when the Surveys were made; but they marched about the Country with Informers of their own picking up, and surveyed several Men's Estates that were never either Indicted, or Out-lawed; what the end of this will be I cannot tell, but to make every Surveyer a Judge and Jury of the Mets and Bonds, which have been the grounds of so many Law-Suits (even in Countries where Perjury does not so much abound) would be the greatest piece of hardship that ever was heard of.

A. But this they say would be a great ease to the Country, and save the Expence of being often Summon'd up to Dublin.

B. The Devil it would! Good Men study that heartily. But what other Powers do they want for the Benefit and ease of that Country?

A. They tell you, *par. 19.* in very Submissive Terms, *That they hope it will not be thought presuming, if they humbly represent some Instances wherein they conceive they are not impowered to execute their Trust to the best advantage of the publick, by the present provision of the Act.* Here they instance all Arrears of Rent due since the 2d of November, or which shall hereafter become due; all Penalties, Fines and Forfeitures, all Debts due to Forfeiting Persons, and all Bonds entred into for security, and to be sued for in the name of the Attorney General; We apprehend, say they, many Debts of this kind may become due, near the expiration of our Commission.

B. Well, what would they be at?

A. I suppose they would have their Salaries continued till all those Debts were recovered.

B. I

B. I cannot blame them: But, pray why may not the King's Attorney General, and the Juries of the Country be intrusted in this Affair, as they are matters of much greater consequence, especially when the Sums are ascertained by them?

A. The Report gives you the reason in the same *par.* We do humbly acquaint your Honours (well, they are the humblest Men alive) that so many of the people of this Kingdom, are interposed in the Forfeitures, that we have not hitherto thought it advisable to submit anything to their determination. We therefore do with all submission lay it before your Honours, whether placing the last result and determination of those matters in the Trust be not for the publick Service?

B. Good God! How long would they have their Power continue? or would they have Power to hang, draw and quarter a Man, that perhaps is not able to pay his Debts? What do they mean by the last result and determination of those matters.

A. Why, they mean that they would be Judge, Jury, and every thing.

B. Do they want any more Powers after this?

A. Yes, *Par.* 20, they tell you that the construction generally put upon the vesting clause, *fol.* 8. is that nothing is vested in the Trustees, but what the forfeiting Persons had.

B. Who ever understood it otherwise? What would they be at?

A. They would have a new Act of Parliament to confirm their Sales, whether the thing Sold were ever Vested in them, or not; and that their Title should not be controverted elsewhere, on any pretence whatsoever.

B. I will say nothing in answer to this, it speaks for it self; but do they want yet further Powers?

A. Yes, they want a Power to Punish the Aiders, and abettors of false Claims, as well as the Claimants.

B. And so no Man in that Kingdom is secure, but he may be brought in as Agent, Solicitor, Friend, or something or other. Do they want more still?

A. Yes, *par. 22d.* they would have all Remainders vested in them, secured from being barred by Fine or Recovery; but all Remainders depending on their Estates Tail are barred already.

B. This comes up perfectly well to the Rule of doing as you would be done unto. If you speak of Remainders expectant upon Forfeited Estates Tail, they say, *Dock them all at once, for they are not valuable in the Eye of the Law.* But if you talk of their own Remainders, Pray, secure them to us that we may sell them?

A. In the *23d par.* they tell you, that because the *Quit-Rents were extinguish'd by Unity of Possession in the King,* therefore it ought to continue so in their Hands.

B. I begin to fancy these Gentlemen think themselves Kings.

A. Well, but they have shew'd great compassion in the latter end of their Report, and have said something in favour of the French Protestants, and for the Indowments of two Schools, and one Church.

B. They are in this all of a piece, for amongst 10000 hardships they have only mentioned 6 or 7 inconsiderable things, *viz. 80 l. per. Ann. to the Lady Upper Ossory, for her Life; a Deficiency of no Body knows what in Mr. Roche's and Mr. De la Rue's Grants: As for the Lord Limrick 'tis very disputable whether the 8000 l. or the Estates (if the Title should*

should be made out) with the Incumbrances that are upon it is preferable. What is offered in favour of the Lord *Bosin*, is plainly for another Advantage. But have they recommended the Under-tenants whom they allow, on Account of their improvements, to be intituled to the utmost favour they could show them. *Par.* 10th have they said any thing of the builders in Corporations; of the Lady *Orkney's* Lessees, who have paid near 12000 *l.* Fines. Or of the Purchasers of the Inheritance, who are still out of 38502 *l.* 1 *s.* 9 *d.* part of their Purchase Money? These are Cases of General concern, and what almost every Protestant in *Ireland* is concerned in one way or other; and is the reason why they do not think fit to leave anything to the Determination of the Protestants of that Country.

A. To speak freely, it is not worth while to bring so vast a Ruin on such a number of private Families for a small Sum of Money. But how shall we come to the certainty of it.

B. Very easily, by asking a few pertinent Questions of some Gentlemen when they come over.

A. By those that have been already asked, 'tis thought the Publick will be no longer imposed on.

B. Pray, what were the Questions?

A. What are the Lands let for at present? How much Money have the Trustees in Bank? What Debts have they paid? What time do they expect? What do the Incumbrances appear to be at present? Why are not the Trustees as particular now, when they have already received a Years profit of the Lands, as they were last Year; having now last Years Men and Books to work upon? Why have they not made Books of the same kind this Year.

B. What

B. What did the Gentleman answer to this.

A. Mum—. I must confess their silence in this Point looks odd enough, even to their friends; and most People think now, that more might have been raised by other Methods, and with much less Oppression to the Country.

B. 'Tis most certainly true.

A. Pray, what prevented it.

B. The Cunning of four Men, who, in order to creat Employments for themselves, so far out-run our very hopes and expectations, that we thought the future management of that Affair was a Debt owing to them.

A. But what can these Men expect at last?

B. Let them look to that.

A. But let me tell you, they may be met with; 'tis a dangerous thing to impose on the Publick.

B. If they please they may now be undeceiv'd, there are 100 Questions, which, if honestly answer'd, will make the matter demonstratively plain. It were impertinent in me to frame Questions for them. 'Tis very plain there is no design to continue the Oppressions that Country lies under, for the sake of Men, who have industriously misled them in matters which may prove in their Consequences so fatal to both Kingdoms. Had a good round Tax been laid upon all Men, whose Estates were confirm'd by the Act, no Person would have been undone. The charge of Collecting this would have been inconsiderable, and the poor Inhabitants had continued quiet in their possession. By this means *Ireland* had been freed from this Court, the Money had come in in time. Those to whose shares it was to fall had been honestly paid, and *England* had by this time settled proper Furds for the remainder of their Debts, and had not had the charge of an old, and the prospect of a new War, under their consideration at one and the same time.

